Int'l. Appln. No.: PCT/EP00/05841

Docket No. B45187

## **REMARKS**

Applicants have canceled claims 1 - 12, and added new claims 13- 24 to bring the claims into conformance with current practices in this art. The amendments are fully supported by the specification. No new matter is added.

In view of this preliminary amendment, the Applicants believe the claims presented herein are allowable. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicants remarks below will be made in the context of the claim set remaining after this amendment.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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